

***PSACALIUM SHARPII* (ASTERACEAE: SENECIONEAE), A NEW SPECIES
FROM GUERRERO MÉXICO**

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ABSTRACT

Psacalium sharpii B. Turner from Guerrero, México, is described and illustrated. It is related to the recently described *P. perezii*, possessing the nearly acaulescent habit and glabrous achenes of that species, but differs in having less lobate leaves and longer, more cylindrical heads with fewer florets.

KEY WORDS: Taxonomy, Guerrero, México, *Psacalium*, Asteraceae, Senecioneae.

Pippen (1968) called attention to one or more immature specimens of *Psacalium* from central Guerrero which he keyed and described as *Psacalium* sp. (no. 12). Dr. Edward Schilling sent to me recent collections of this described, but unnamed, taxon. The specimen, which is nearly mature, clearly represents a good species, as discussed below.

As noted above, Pippen (1968) recognized and keyed the presently described species as *Psacalium* sp. (no. 12). He believed that the two specimens available to him (*McVaugh 21913; Sharp 441496*) were "somewhat intermediate between" *P. eriocarpum* and *P. holwayanum*, but differed from both by their glabrous achenes. These notes were accurate. He further noted that the "specimens probably represent either a distinct species or a variety of one of the above." Because of the very immature nature of the two sheets cited, he was reluctant to assign a name to the species described. The present collection from the same general area confirms the fact that the specimens concerned are markedly different from currently described species, but seemingly most closely related to the recently described *P. perezii* B. Turner from Jalisco, México (Turner 1989). Both are nearly acaulescent and possess glabrous achenes, but *P. sharpii* has leaves with shallow, triangular lobes (vs deep lobes which are lanceolate in outline), longer involucre (12-14 mm vs 8-10 mm long) and fewer florets per head (8-10 vs 20-25), etc.

Psacalium sharpii B. Turner, *sp. nov.*, Figure 1. TYPE: MÉXICO. Guerrero: "3 km NE of Amojilcea on road to Omiltemi," reportedly abundant in pine-oak forests, 31 Oct 1986, *José L. Panero, E.E. Schilling & B.E. Wofford 525* (HOLOTYPE: TENN).

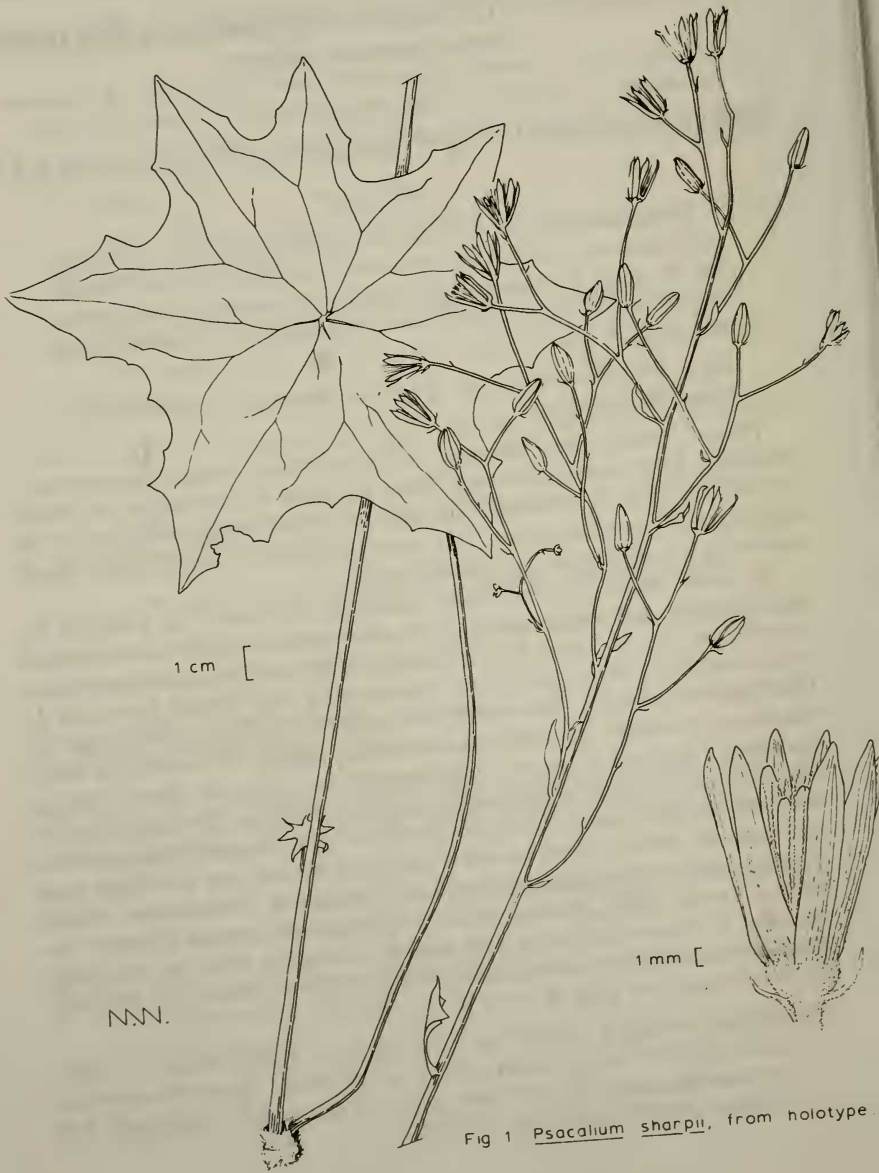


Fig 1 *Psacalium sharpii*, from holotype.

Psacalum perezii B. Turner similis sed foliis plus profunde partitis divisionibus lanceolatis et involucris longioribus (12-14 mm vs 8-10 mm) flosculis paucioribus differt.

Perennial, nearly acaulescent, herbs 0.8-1.5 m high. Stems slender (3-5 mm wide), terete, minutely hispidulo-puberulent, bearing only 1-3 very remote, reduced leaves (2-6 cm long). Basal leaves centrally peltate; petioles 15-25 cm long; blades circular in outline, glabrous above, nearly glabrate at maturity beneath, 7-8 lobate, 15-30 cm across, the lobes 3-4 cm long, ca as wide as long, the apices acute. Heads eradiate, 10-25, arranged in open cymose panicles, the ultimate peduncles minutely glandular pubescent, mostly 3-8 cm long. Involucres 12-14 mm high, cylindro-campanulate, the bracts 8, linear lanceolate with acute apices. Florets 8-10 per head, the corollas white with a short throat and lobes 3-4 mm long. Achenes (immature) glabrous, the pappus of numerous white barbellate bristles ca 10 mm long; chromosome number, $n = 30$ pairs (*McVaugh 21913*, MICH, TEX).

Additional specimens examined: MÉXICO. Guerrero: 10 mi W of Omiltemi, 21 Oct 1962, *McVaugh 21913* (LL); between rocks on dry, rocky slope, 28 km W of Chilpancingo, 6500 ft, 24 Oct 1944, *Sharp 441496* (TENN).

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